

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /061 W
-----060753Z 079717 /15

O 060600Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9155

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIBREVILLE 0865

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GB, US, UN

SUBJECT: UNSC DEBATE ON BENIN COMPLAINT

REF: USUN 1017

1. IN ANTICIAPAION UPCOMING UNSC DEBATE ON BENIN COMPLAINT
(REFTEL) PRESIDENT BONGO SENT SPECIAL EMISSARY TO ASK
US TO STAND FIRM AGAINST ANY SC RESOLUTION CONDEMNATORY
OF ALLEGED GABONESE ROLE.

2. ACCORDING TO MINISTER (AND FORMER DIRECTEUR DE CABINET)
MAYILA, WHO WAS BEARER OF PRESIDENTIAL MESSAGE, GOG IS
PARTICULARLY TROUBLED OVER TIMING OF ACCUSATION AND DEBATE
RELATIVE TO FORTHCOMING OAU SUMMIT MEETING. GOG CONTINUES
TO DENY ALL COMPLICITY IN JANUARY 16 MERCENARY RAID ON
COTONOU, AND HAS TWICE OFFERED IN CABLES TO UNSYG WALDHEIM
TO PRODUCE EVIDENCE OF ITS INNOCENCE TO UN INVESTIGATING
TEAM, IN VIEW FACT THAT UN INVESTIGATORS HAVE NOT
VISITED ANY OF ACCUSED COUNTIRES, AND ADMITTED IN THEIR
REPORT THAT THEY HAD NOT TIME TO VERIFY MUCH OF
EVIDENCE PRESENTED TO THEM IN BENIN, GABONESE FEEL
THAT ANY CONDEMNATION OF THEIR ROLE IS UNWARRANTED
AND WOULD BE TRAVESTY OF JUSTICE.

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3. IN THIS SITUATION, GOG HOPES US WILL STAND FIRM
AGAINST ANY SUCH CONDEMNATION AND WILL INSIST ON
MORE THOROUGH AND BALANCED INVESTIGATION OF BENIN
COMPLAINTS. GABONESE ARE HOPEFUL NO SUCH RESOLUTION WILL
BE PLACED TO VOTE, BUT HAVE ASKED THAT US BE PREPARED
TO EXERCISE VETO IF NECESSARY TO ENSURE FAIR OUTCOME OF

DEBATE.

4. COMMENT: I MADE NO PROMISE TO MAYILA OTHER THAN TO TRANSMIT PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE, BUT BELIEVE GABONESE DO HAVE REASONABLE ARGUMENT THAT THEY DESERVE FAIR HEARING AND CHANCE TO PRESENT EVIDENCE BEFORE BEING CONDEMNED.

5. FOR USUN: WOULD APPRECIATE BEING INCLUDED AS ADDRESSEE ON ALL CABLES REPORTING UNSC DEBATE ON BEINN COMPLAINT, AND PARTICULARLY ON ANY REPORT OF STATEMENTS TO COUNCIL BY US REPRESENTATIVE. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBATES, ALLEGATIONS, MERCENARIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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TAGS: PFOR, PORG, GB, US, DM, UN
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Type: TE
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